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(54) Title: FUSION PROTEINS CONTAINING N-TERMINAL FRAGMENTS OF HUMAN SERUM ALBUMIN

(57) Abstract

A fusion polypeptide comprising, as at least part of the N-terminal portion thereof, an N-terminal portion of HSA or a variant thereof and, as at least part of the C-terminal portion thereof, another polypeptide except that, when the said N-terminal portion of HSA is the 1-n portion where n is 369 to 419 or a variant thereof, then the said polypeptide is one of various specified entities, including the 585 to 1578 portion of human fibronectin or a variant thereof. The HSA-like portion may have additional N-terminal residues, such as secretion leader sequences (signal sequences). The C-terminal portion is preferably the 585-1578 portion of human plasma fibronectin. The N-terminal and C-terminal portions may be cleavable to yield the isolated C-terminal portion, with the N-terminal portion having served to facilitate secretion from the host.

One aspect of the present invention provides a fusion polypeptide comprising, as at least part of the N-terminal portion thereof, an N-terminal portion of HSA or a variant thereof and, as at least part of the C-terminal portion thereof, another polypeptide except that, when the said Nterminal portion of HSA is the 1-n portion where n is 369 to 419 or a variant thereof then the said polypeptide is (a) the 585 to 1578 portion of human fibronectin or a variant thereof, (b) the 1 to 368 portion of CD4 or a variant thereof, (c) platelet derived growth factor, or a variant thereof, (d) transforming growth factor, or a variant thereof, (e) the 1-261 portion of mature human plasma fibronectin or a variant thereof, (f) the 278-578 portion of mature human plasma fibronectin or a variant thereof, (g) the 1-272 portion of mature human von Willebrand's Factor or a variant thereof, or (h) alpha-l-antitrypsin or a variant thereof.

The N-terminal portion of HSA is preferably the said 1-n portion, the 1-177 portion (up to and including the cysteine), the 1-200 portion (up to but excluding the cysteine) or a portion intermediate 1-177 and 1-200.

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The term "human serum albumin" (HSA) is intended to include (but not necessarily to be restricted to) known or yet-to-be-discovered polymorphic forms of HSA. example, albumin Naskapi has Lys-372 in place of Glu-372 and pro-albumin Christchurch has an altered pro-sequence. The term "variants" is intended to include (but not necessarily to be restricted to) minor artificial variations in sequence (such as molecules lacking one or a few residues, having conservative substitutions or minor insertions of residues, or having minor variations of amino acid structure). Thus polypeptides which have 80%, preferably 85%, 90%, 95% or 99%, homology with HSA are deemed to be "variants". It is also preferred for such variants to be physiologically equivalent to HSA; that is say, variants preferably share at least pharmacological utility with HSA. Furthermore, any putative variant which is to be used pharmacologically should be non-immunogenic in the animal (especially human) being treated.

Conservative substitutions are those where one or more amino acids are substituted for others having similar properties such that one skilled in the art of polypeptide chemistry would expect at least the secondary structure, and preferably the tertiary structure, of the polypeptide to be substantially unchanged. For example, typical such

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substitutions include asparagine for glutamine, serine for asparagine and arginine for lysine. Variants may alternatively, or as well, lack up to ten (preferably only one or two) intermediate amino acid residues (ie not at the termini of the said N-terminal portion of HSA) in comparison with the corresponding portion of natural HSA; preferably any such omissions occur in the 100 to 369 portion of the molecule (relative to mature HSA itself) (if present). Similarly, up to ten, but preferably only one or two, amino acids may be added, again in the 100 to 369 portion for preference (if present). "physiologically functional equivalents" also encompasses larger molecules comprising the said sequence plus a further sequence at the N-terminal (for example, pro-HSA, pre-pro-HSA and met-HSA).

Clearly, the said "another polypeptide" in the fusion compounds of the invention cannot be the remaining portion of HSA, since otherwise the whole polypeptide would be HSA, which would not then be a "fusion polypeptide".

Even when the HSA-like portion is not the said 1-n portion of HSA, it is preferred for the non-HSA portion to be one of the said (a) to (h) entities.

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The 1 to 368 portion of CD4 represents the first four disulphide-linked immunoglobulin-like domains of the human T lymphocyte CD4 protein, the gene for and amino acid sequence of which are disclosed in D. Smith et al (1987) Science 328, 1704-1707. It is used to combat HIV infections.

The sequence of human platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF) is described in Collins et al (1985) Nature 316, 748-750. Similarly, the sequence of transforming growth factors β (TGF- β) is described in Derynck et al (1985) Nature 316, 701-705. These growth factors are useful for wound-healing.

A cDNA sequence for the 1-261 portion of Fn was disclosed in EP-A-207 751 (obtained from plasmid pFH6 with endonuclease PvuII). This portion binds fibrin and can be used to direct fused compounds to blood clots.

A cDNA sequence for the 278-578 portion of Fn, which contains a collagen-binding domain, was disclosed by R.J. Owens and F.E. Baralle in 1986 E.M.B.O.J. $\underline{5}$, 2825-2830. This portion will bind to platelets.

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The 1-272 portion of von Willebrand's Factor binds and stabilises factor VIII. The sequence is given in Bontham et al, Nucl. Acids Res. 14, 7125-7127.

Variants of alpha-1-antitrypsin include those disclosed by Rosenburg et al (1984) Nature 312, 77-80. In particular, the present invention includes the Pittsburgh variant (Met³⁵⁸ is mutated to Arg) and the variant where Pro³⁵⁷ and Met³⁵⁸ are mutated to alanine and arginine respectively. These compounds are useful in the treatment of septic shock and lung disorders.

Variants of the non-HSA portion of the polypeptides of the invention include variations as discussed above in relation to the HSA portion, including those with conservative amino acid substitutions, and also homologues from other species.

The fusion polypeptides of the invention may have N-terminal amino acids which extend beyond the portion corresponding to the N-terminal portion of HSA. For example, if the HSA-like portion corresponds to an N-terminal portion of mature HSA, then pre-, pro-, or pre-pro sequences may be added thereto, for example the yeast alpha-factor leader sequence. The fused leader portions of WO 90/01063 may be used. The polypeptide which is

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fused to the HSA portion may be a naturally-occurring polypeptide, a fragment thereof or a novel polypeptide, including a fusion polypeptide. For example, in Example 3 below, a fragment of fibronectin is fused to the HSA portion via a 4 amino acid linker.

It has been found that the amino terminal portion of the HSA molecule is so structured as to favour particularly efficient translocation and export of the fusion compounds of the invention in eukaryotic cells.

A second aspect of the invention provides a transformed host having a nucleotide sequence so arranged as to express a fusion polypeptide as described above. By "so arranged", we mean, for example, that the nucleotide sequence is in correct reading frame with an appropriate RNA polymerase binding site and translation start sequence and is under the control of a suitable promoter. The promoter may be homologous with or heterologous to the host. Downstream (3') regulatory sequences may be included if desired, as is known. The host is preferably yeast (for example Saccharomyces spp., e.g. S. cerevisiae; Kluvveromyces spp., e.g. K. lactis; Pichia spp.; or Schizosaccharomyces spp., e.g. S. pombe) but may be any

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other suitable host such as \underline{E} . \underline{coli} , \underline{B} . $\underline{subtilis}$, $\underline{Aspergillus}$ \underline{spp} ., $\underline{mammalian}$ \underline{cells} , \underline{plant} \underline{cells} or \underline{insect} \underline{cells} .

A third aspect of the invention provides a process for preparing a fusion polypeptide according to the first aspect of the invention by cultivation of a transformed host according to the second aspect of the invention, followed by separation of the fusion polypeptide in a useful form.

A fourth aspect of the invention provides therapeutic methods of treatment of the human or other animal body comprising administration of such a fusion polypeptide.

In the methods of the invention we are particularly concerned to improve the efficiency of secretion of useful therapeutic human proteins from yeast and have conceived the idea of fusing to amino-terminal portions of HSA those proteins which may ordinarily be only inefficiently secreted. One such protein is a potentially valuable wound-healing polypeptide representing amino acids 585 to 1578 of human fibronectin (referred to herein as Fn 585-1578). As we have described in a separate application (filed simultaneously herewith) this molecule contains cell spreading, chemotactic and chemokinetic activities

useful in healing wounds. The fusion polypeptides of the present invention wherein the C-terminal portion is Fn 585-1578 can be used for wound healing applications as biosynthesised, especially where the hybrid human protein However, the portion will be topically applied. representing amino acids 585 to 1578 of human fibronectin can if desired be recovered from the fusion protein by preceding the first amino acid of the fibronectin portion by amino acids comprising a factor X cleavage site. After isolation of the fusion protein from culture supernatant, the desired molecule is released by factor X cleavage and purified by suitable chromatography (e.g. ion-exchange chromatography). Other sites providing for enzymatic or chemical cleavage can be provided, either by appropriate juxtaposition of the N-terminal and C-terminal portions or by the insertion therebetween of an appropriate linker.

At least some of the fusion polypeptides of the invention, especially those including the said CD4 and vWF fragments, PDGF and α_1AT , also have an increased half-life in the blood and therefore have advantages and therapeutic utilities themselves, namely the therapeutic utility of the non-HSA portion of the molecule. In the case of α_1AT and others, the compound will normally be administered as

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a one-off dose or only a few doses over a short period, rather than over a long period, and therefore the compounds are less likely to cause an immune response.

EXAMPLES : SUMMARY

Standard recombinant DNA procedures were as described by Maniatis et al (1982 and recent 2nd edition) unless otherwise stated. Construction and analysis of phage M13 recombinant clones was as described by Messing (1983) and Sanger et al (1977).

DNA sequences encoding portions of human serum albumin used in the construction of the following molecules are derived from the plasmids mHOB12 and pDBD2 (EP-A-322 094, Delta Biotechnology Ltd, relevant portions of which are reproduced below) or by synthesis of oligonucleotides equivalent to parts of this sequence. DNA sequences encoding portions of human fibronectin are derived from the plasmid pFHDEL1, or by synthesis of oligonucleotides equivalent to parts of this sequence. Plasmid pFHDEL1, which contains the complete human cDNA encoding plasma fibronectin, was obtained by ligation of DNA derived from plasmids pFH6, 16, 54, 154 and 1 (EP-A-207 751; Delta Biotechnology Ltd).

This DNA represents an mRNA variant which does not contain the 'ED' sequence and had an 89-amino acid variant of the III-CS region (R.J. Owens, A.R. Kornblihtt and F.E. Baralle (1986) Oxford Surveys on Eukaryotic Genes 3 141-160). The map of this vector is disclosed in Fig. 11 and the protein sequence of the mature polypeptide produced by expression of this cDNA is shown in Fig. 5.

Oligonucleotides were synthesised on an Applied Biosystems 380B oligonucleotide synthesiser according to the manufacturer's recommendations (Applied Biosystems, Warrington, Cheshire, UK).

An expression vector was constructed in which DNA encoding the HSA secretion signal and mature HSA up to and including the 387th amino acid, leucine, fused in frame to DNA encoding a segment of human fibronectin representing amino acids 585 to 1578 inclusive, was placed downstream of the hybrid promoter of EP-A-258 067 (Delta Biotechnology), which is a highly efficient galactose-inducible promoter functional in Saccharomyces cerevisiae. The codon for the 1578th amino acid of human fibronectin was directly followed by a stop codon (TAA) and then the S. cerevisiae phosphoglycerate kinase (PGK) gene transcription terminator. This vector was then introduced into S. cerevisiae by transformation, wherein it directed

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the expression and secretion from the cells of a hybrid molecule representing the N-terminal 387 amino acids of HSA C-terminally fused to amino acids 585 to 1578 of human fibronectin.

In a second example a similar vector is constructed so as to enable secretion by <u>S. cerevisiae</u> of a hybrid molecule representing the N-terminal 195 amino acids of HSA C-terminally fused to amino acids 585 to 1578 of human fibronectin.

Aspects of the present invention will now be described by way of example and with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 (on two sheets) depicts the amino acid sequence currently thought to be the most representative of natural HSA, with (boxed) the alternative C-termini of HSA(1-n);

Figure 2 (on two sheets) depicts the DNA sequence coding for mature HSA, wherein the sequence included in Linker 3 is underlined;

Figure 3 illustrates, diagrammatically, the construction of mHOB16;

Figure 4 illustrates, diagrammatically, the construction of pHOB31;

Figure 5 (on 6 sheets) illustrates the mature protein sequence encoded by the Fn plasmid pFHDEL1;

Figure 6 illustrates Linker 5, showing the eight constituent oligonucleotides;

Figure 7 shows schematically the construction of plasmid pDBDF2;

Figure 8 shows schematically the construction of plasmid pDBDF5;

Figure 9 shows schematically the construction of plasmid pDBDF9;

Figure 10 shows schematically the construction of plasmid DBDF12, using plasmid pFHDEL1; and

Figure 11 shows a map of plasmid pFHDEL1.

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EXAMPLE 1 : HSA 1-387 FUSED TO Fn 585-1578

The following is an account of a preparation of plasmids comprising sequences encoding a portion of HSA, as is disclosed in EP-A-322 094.

The human serum albumin coding sequence used in the construction of the following molecules is derived from the plasmid M13mp19.7 (EP-A-201 239, Delta Biotech- nology Ltd.) or by synthesis of oligonucleotides equivalent to parts of this sequence. Oligonucleotides were synthesised using phosphoramidite chemistry on an Applied Biosystems 380B oligonucleotide synthesizer according to the manufacturer's recommendations (AB Inc., Warrington, Cheshire, England).

An oligonucleotide was synthesised (Linker A) which represented a part of the known HSA coding sequence (Figure 2) from the PstI site (1235-1240, Figure 2) to the codon for valine 381 wherein that codon was changed from GTG to GTC:

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L	i	n	k	e	r	1

	D	P	H	E	С	Y
5′	GAT	CCT	CAT	GAA	TGC	TAT
3' ACGT	CTA	GGA	GTA	CTT	ACG	ATA
			1247			

F Α K V D E F K GTG TTC GAT GAA TTTGCC AAA AAA CGG TTT CAC AAG CTA CTT AAA $\mathbf{T}\mathbf{T}\mathbf{T}$ 1267

P L V
CTT GTC 3'
GGA CAG 5'

Linker 1 was ligated into the vector M13mp19 (Norrander et al, 1983) which had been digested with PstI and HincII and the ligation mixture was used to transfect E.coli strain XL1-Blue (Stratagene Cloning Systems, San Diego, CA). Recombinant clones were identified by their failure to evolve a blue colour on medium containing the chromogenic indicator X-gal (5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl-β-D-galactoside) in the present of IPTG (isopropylthio-β-galactoside). DNA sequence analysis of template DNA prepared from bacteriophage particles of recombinant clones identified a molecule with the required DNA sequence, designated mHOB12 (Figure 3).

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M13mpl9.7 consists of the coding region of mature HSA in M13mpl9 (Norrander et al, 1983) such that the codon for the first amino acid of HSA, GAT, overlaps a unique XhoI site thus:

Asp Ala

- 5' CTCGAGATGCA 3'
- 3' GAGCTCTACGT 5'
 Xho

(EP-A-210 239). M13mp19.7 was digested with XhoI and made flush-ended by S1-nuclease treatment and was then ligated with the following oligonucleotide (Linker 2):

Linker 2

5' T C T T T T A T C C A A G C T T G G A T A A A A G A 3'
3' A G A A A T A G G T T C G A A C C T A T T T T C T 5'

<u>Hin</u>dIII

The ligation mix was then used to transfect <u>E.coli</u> XL1-Blue and template DNA was prepared from several plaques and then analysed by DNA sequencing to identify a clone, pDBD1 (Figure 4), with the correct sequence.

A 1.1 kb HindIII to PstI fragment representing the 5' end of the HSA coding region and one half of the inserted oligonucleotide linker was isolated from pDBD1 by agarose gel electrophoresis. This fragment was then ligated with double stranded mHOB12 previously digested with HindIII and PstI and the ligation mix was then used to transfect E.coli XL1-Blue. Single stranded template DNA was prepared from mature bacteriophage particles of several plagues. The DNA was made double stranded in vitro by extension from annealed sequencing primer with the Klenow fragment of DNA polymerase I in the presence of deoxynucleoside triphosphates. Restriction analysis of this DNA permitted the identification of a clone with the correct configuration, mHOB15 (Figure 4).

The following oligonucleotide (Linker 3) represents from the codon for the 382nd amino acid of mature HSA (glutamate, GAA) to the codon for lysine 389 which is followed by a stop codon (TAA) and a <u>HindIII</u> site and then a <u>Bam</u>HI cohesive end:

Linker 3

- E E P O N L I K J
- 5' GAA GAG CCT CAG AAT TTA ATC AAA TAA GCTTG 3'
- 3' CTT CTC GGA GTC TTA AAT TAG TTT ATT CGAACCTAG 5'

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This was ligated into double stranded mHOB15, previously digested with <u>HincII</u> and <u>BamHI</u>. After ligation, the DNA was digested with <u>HincII</u> to destroy all non-recombinant molecules and then used to transfect <u>E.coli</u> XL1-Blue. Single stranded DNA was prepared from bacteriophage particles of a number of clones and subjected to DNA sequence analysis. One clone having the correct DNA sequence was designated mHOB16 (Figure 4).

A molecule in which the mature HSA coding region was fused to the HSA secretion signal was created by insertion of Linker 4 into BamHI and XhoI digested M13mp19.7 to form pDBD2 (Figure 4).

Linker 4

TAA

AGG

GAA

		M	K	W	V		S	F
5′	GATCC	ATG	AAG	TGG	GT	A	AGC	TTT
	G	TAC	TTC	ACC	CA	T	TCG	AAA
I	S	}	L .	L	F	L	F	s
AT:	r TC	:c	CTT	CTT	TTT	CTC	TTT	AGC

GAA

AAA

GAG AAA

TCG

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S G S A Y R TTT TCG GCT TAT TCC AGG GGT GTG CAC AAA AGC CGA ATA AGG TCC CCA

R R CG 3'

In this linker the codon for the fourth amino acid after the initial methionine, ACC for threonine in the HSA prepro leader sequence (Lawn et al, 1981), has been changed to AGC for serine to create a <u>HindIII</u> site.

A sequence of synthetic DNA representing a part of the known HSA coding sequence (Lawn et al., 1981) (amino acids 382 to 387, Fig. 2), fused to part of the known fibronectin coding sequence (Kornblihtt et al., 1985) (amino acids 585 to 640, Fig. 2), was prepared by synthesising six oligonucleotides (Linker 5, Fig. 6). The oligonucleotides 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8 were phosphorylated polynucleotide kinase and then using **T4** oligonucleotides were annealed under standard conditions in pairs, i.e. 1+8, 2+7, 3+6 and 4+5. oligonucleotides were then mixed together and ligated with mHOB12 which had previously been digested with the restriction enzymes <u>Hin</u>cII and <u>EcoRI</u>. The ligation

Stratagene Cloning Systems, San Diego, CA). Single stranded template DNA was then prepared from mature bacteriophage particles derived from several independent plaques and then was analysed by DNA sequencing. A clone in which a linker of the expected sequence had been correctly inserted into the vector was designated pDBDF1 (Fig. 7). This plasmid was then digested with PstI and EcoRI and the approx. 0.24kb fragment was purified and then ligated with the 1.29kb BamHI-PstI fragment of pDBD2 (Fig. 7) and BamHI + EcoRI digested pUC19 (Yanisch-Perron, et al., 1985) to form pDBDF2 (Fig. 7).

A plasmid containing a DNA sequence encoding full length human fibronectin, pFHDEL1, was digested with <u>EcoRI</u> and <u>XhoI</u> and a 0.77kb <u>EcoRI-XhoI</u> fragment (Fig. 8) was isolated and then ligated with <u>EcoRI</u> and <u>SalI</u> digested M13 mp18 (Norrander <u>et al.</u>, 1983) to form pDBDF3 (Fig. 8).

The following oligonucleotide linker (Linker 6) was synthesised, representing from the PstI site at 4784-4791 of the fibronectin sequence of EP-A-207 751 to the codon for tyrosine 1578 (Fig. 5) which is followed by a stop codon (TAA), a HindIII site and then a BamHI cohesive end:

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Linker 6

G P D Q T E M T I E G L $GGT \ CCA \ GAT \ CAA \ ACA \ GAA \ ATG \ ACT \ ATT \ GAA \ GGC \ TTG$ A CGT CCA GGT CTA GTT TGT CTT TAC TGA TAA CTT CCG AAC

Q P T V E Y Stop

CAG CCC ACA GTG GAG TAT TAA GCTTG

GTC GGG TGT CAC CTC ATA ATT CGAACCTAG

This linker was then ligated with PstI and HindIII digested pDBDF3 to form pDBDF4 (Fig. 8). The following DNA fragments were then ligated together with BclII digested pKV50 (EP-A-258 067) as shown in Fig. 8: 0.68kb ECORI-BamHI fragment of pDBDF4, 1.5kb BamHI-StuI fragment of pDBDF2 and the 2.2kb StuI-EcoRI fragment of pFHDEL1. The resultant plasmid pDBDF5 (Fig. 8) includes promoter of EP-A-258 067 to direct the expression of the HSA secretion signal fused to DNA encoding amino acids 1-387 of mature HSA, in turn fused directly and in frame acids 585-1578 of human with DNA encoding amino fibronectin, after which translation would terminate at the stop codon TAA. This is then followed by the S.cerevisiae PGK gene transcription terminator. The

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plasmid also contains sequences which permit selection and maintenance in <u>Escherichia coli</u> and <u>S.cerevisiae</u> (EP-A-258 067).

This plasmid was introduced into <u>S.cerevisiae</u> S150-2B (1eu2-3 1eu2-112 ura3-52 trp1-289 his3-1) by standard procedures (Beggs, 1978). Transformants were subsequently analysed and found to produce the HSA-fibronectin fusion protein.

EXAMPLE 2 : HSA 1-195 FUSED TO Fn 585-1578

In this second example the first domain of human serum albumin (amino acids 1-195) is fused to amino acids 585-1578 of human fibronectin.

The plasmid pDBD2 was digested with BamHI and BglII and the 0.79kb fragment was purified and then ligated with BamHI-digested M13mp19 to form pDBDF6 (Fig. 6). The following oligonucleotide:

5'-C C A A A G C T C G A G G A A C T T C G-3'

was used as a mutagenic primer to create a XhoI site in pDBDF6 by in-vitro mutagenesis using a kit supplied by Amersham International PLC. This site was created by

changing base number 696 of HSA from a T to a G (Fig. 2). The plasmid thus formed was designated pDBDF7 (Fig. 9). The following linker was then synthesised to represent from this newly created XhoI site to the codon for lysine 195 of HSA (AAA) and then from the codon for isoleucine 585 of fibronectin to the ends of oligonucleotides 1 and 8 shown in Fig. 6.

Linker_7

D E L R D E G K A S S A K

TC GAT GAA CTT CGG GAT GAA GGG AAG GCT TCG TCT GCC AAA

A CTT GAA GCC CTA CTT CCC TTC CGA AGC AGA CGG TTT

I T E T P S Q P N S H

ATC ACT GAG ACT CCG AGT CAG C

TAG TGA CTC TGA GGC TCA GTC GGG TTG AGG GTG G

This linker was ligated with the annealed oligonuclectides shown in Fig. 3, i.e. 2+7, 3+6 and 4+5 together with XhoI and EcoRI digested pDBDF7 to form pDBDF8 (Fig. 9). Note that in order to recreate the original HSA DNA sequence, and hence amino acid sequence, insertion of linker 7 and the other oligonucleotides into pDBDF7 does not recreate the XhoI site.

The 0.83kb <u>BamHI-StuI</u> fragment of pDBDF8 was purified and then was ligated with the 0.68kb <u>EcoRI-BamHI</u> fragment of pDBDF2 and the 2.22kb <u>StuI-EcoRI</u> fragment of pFHDEL1 into <u>BglII-digested</u> pKV50 to form pDBDF9 (Fig. 9). This plasmid is similar to pDBDF5 except that it specifies only residues 1-195 of HSA rather than 1-387 as in pDBDF5.

When introduced into <u>S.cerevisiae</u> S150-2B as above, the plasmid directed the expression and secretion of a hybrid molecule composed of residues 1-195 of HSA fused to residues 585-1578 of fibronectin.

EXAMPLE 3 : HSA 1-387 FUSED TO Fn 585-1578, AS CLEAVABLE MOLECULE

In order to facilitate production of large amounts of residues 585-1578 of fibronectin, a construct was made in which DNA encoding residues 1-387 of HSA was separated from DNA encoding residues 585-1578 of fibronectin by the sequence

I E G R
ATT GAA GGT AGA
TAA CTT CCA TCT

which specifies the cleavage recognition site for the blood clotting Factor X. Consequently the purified secreted product can be treated with Factor X and then the fibronectin part of the molecule can be separated from the HSA part.

To do this two oligonucleotides were synthesised and then annealed to form Linker 8.

Linker 8

R I T E T P S Q P

AGA ATC ACT GAG ACT CCG AGT CAG C

TCT TAG TGA CTC TGA GGC TCA GTC GGG

N S H

TTG AGG GTG G

This linker was then ligated with the annealed oligonucleotides shown in Fig. 6, i.e. 2+7, 3+6 and 4+5 into HincII and <a href="https://min.pubm.nih.gov/HincII and EcoRI digested mHOB12, to form pDEDF10

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(Fig. 7). The plasmid was then digested with <u>PstI</u> and <u>EcoRI</u> and the roughly 0.24kb fragment was purified and then ligated with the 1.29kb <u>BamHI-PstI</u> fragment of pDBD2 and <u>BamHI</u> and <u>EcoRI</u> digested pUCl9 to form pDBDF11 (Fig. 10).

The 1.5kb <u>BamHI-StuI</u> fragment of pDBDF11 was then ligated with the 0.68kb <u>EcoRI-BamH1</u> fragment of pDBDF4 and the 2.22kb <u>StuI-EcoRI</u> fragment of pFHDEL1 into <u>BglII-digested</u> pKV50 to form pDBDF12 (Fig. 10). This plasmid was then introduced into <u>S.cerevisiae</u> S150-2B. The purified secreted fusion protein was treated with Factor X to liberate the fibronectin fragment representing residues 585-1578 of the native molecule.

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CLAIMS

A fusion polypeptide comprising, as at least part of the N-terminal portion thereof, an N-terminal portion of HSA or a variant thereof and, as at least part of the C-terminal portion thereof, another polypeptide except that, when the said N-terminal portion of HSA is the 1-n portion where n is 369 to 419 or a variant thereof then the said polypeptide is (a) the 585 to 1578 portion of human fibronectin or a variant thereof, (b) the 1 to 368 portion of CD4 or a variant thereof, (c) platelet derived growth factor or a variant thereof, (d) transforming growth factor β or a variant thereof, (e) the 1-261 portion of mature human plasma fibronectin or a variant thereof, (f) 278-578 portion of mature human plasma the fibronectin or a variant thereof, (g) the 1-272 portion of mature human von Willebrand's Factor or a variant thereof, or (h) alpha-1-antitrypsin or a variant thereof.

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- 2. A fusion polypeptide according to Claim 1 additionally comprising at least one N-terminal amino acid extending beyond the portion corresponding to the N-terminal portion of HSA.
- 3. A fusion polypeptide according to Claim 1 or 2 wherein there is a cleavable region at the junction of the said N-terminal or C-terminal portions.
- 4. A fusion polypeptide according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the said C-terminal portion is the 585 to 1578 portion of human plasma fibronectin or a variant thereof.
- 5. A transformed or transfected host having a nucleotide sequence so arranged as to express a fusion polypeptide according to any one of the preceding claims.
- 6. A process for preparing a fusion polypeptide by cultivation of a host according to Claim 5, followed by separation of the fusion polypeptide in a useful form.
- 7. A fusion polypeptide according to any one of Claims 1 to 4 for use in therapy.

FIGURE 1

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	Lys	Leu	Val	Asn	Glu	. Val	75-	Glu	Phe	ala:	Lys	The	Cys	Val	Ala	Asp	G1:	Ses	Ala	Glu
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	A57	Cys	ÇZK	Lys	Ser	Leu	. His	The	Leu	Phe	Giy	ys	Lys	Leu	Cys	The	٧٤٦	ALE		
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	ÇZÁ	Val	Met	Cys	7.5-	Ala	Phe	His	ĢΖΑ	Asn	Glu	Glu	<u> </u>	Phe	ŗer	Lys	Lys	Tyr	Je.	TyF
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,	GIL	=		وعد	~->			- ! -	746											:80
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FI	JURE	<u>:</u>	Cont	<u>.</u>															
Val	Glu	Glu	250	Gin	AST	Leu	ille	Lys	350 Gln		Cys	: G1:	: Leu	Phe	e Sin	: :::	le:	: Gl <u>:</u>	400 Glu
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								-	550										560
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Ala	ςzλ	Asp	Lys	Glu	The	Cys	Phe	Ala	570 Glu	Glu	Gly	Lys	Lys	Leu	Val	Alz	خلد	Ser	580 Glm
λla	Ala	Leu	Gly	Leu															

FIGURE 2 DNA sequence coding for mature HSA

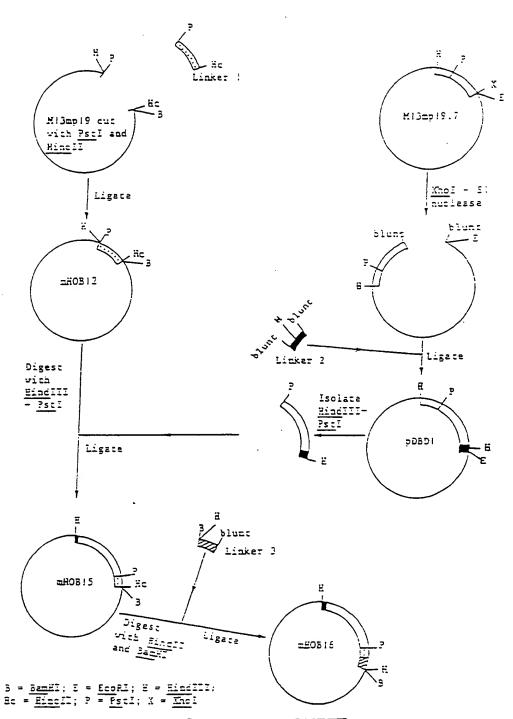
• •	20	3.0	4.0	50	60		8.0
10 GATGEACACAAGAGI	ZV GAGGTTGCT	JV CADESSTTI	AAGATTTGG:	ou Sagaagaaaat	ov TTCXAAGCCT	/: :GG:G:T : GAT7	GCCTT
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TGCTCAGTATCTTCA A Q Y L Q	GCAGTGTCC O C P	ATTTGAAGAI F E D	E V K	TAGTGAATGA L V N E	AGTAACTGAA: V T E	DAAAACD III I	C
-							
170 TTGCTGATGAGTCAG					220 1011277176		
V A D E S							
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CETGAAACCTATGGT							
330					380		
TGACAACULAAACCT	CCCCCGATTC D 5 1.	GTGAGACEA V R P	JAGGTTGATG' Z V D '	IGATGTGCACT V M C T	GCTTTTCATS	ACAATGAAGA(D'NEEE	JACAT T
2 N 2 N 2							
410 TTTTGAAAAATACTT	420	430			450		
F L K K Y I							
490	500	510	520	530	540	550	560
TATAAAGCTGCTTTTA Y K A A F	CAGAATGTT T E C	C C A A	TGATAAAGCT D K A	GCCTGCCTGT A C L	TGCCAAAGCT: L P K L	CGATGAACTTC D E L	GGGA R D
					•		
570 TGAAGGGAAGGCTTCG	580	590 Cagagactea	600 ARTGTGCCAG	610 TETEEAAAA	520 TTTGGAGAAA	630 BAGCTTTCAAA	640 GCRT
E G K A S							
55C	660	570	680	690	700	710	720
GGGCAGTGGCTCGCCT	GAGCEAGAG	ATTTCCCAAA	GCTGAGTTTG	CAGAAGTTTC:	CAAGTTAGTGA	CAGATETTAC	تنند
WAVARL	S Q R	F P K	Α Σ Γ	A E V 5	K L V		K
730	740	750	760	770	780	790	500
GTCCACACGGAATGCT	GCCATGGAGA	ATCTGCTTGA	ATGTGCTGAT	eyCyggggggy	CCTTGCCAAG	TATATOTGTG:	بنند
VHTEC	L h 6 L			D K A L	, , ,		
810	820	830	840	850	560	570	088
TCAGGATTCGATCTCC Q D S I S	AGTAAACTGA S K L	AGGAATGCT(X E C (TGAAAAACC E K P	L L E	X S # C	LATIGUCGAAG I A E	V V
					940		960
AAAATGATGAGATGCCT ENDEMP	CCTGACTTG A D L	P S L	A A D F	TGTTGAAAGT V E S	K D V C	K N Y	GCT A
970	980	990	1000	1010	1020 3	636 1	040
AGGCAAAGGATGTCTT							

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FIGURE 2 Cont. 1050 1060 1070 1090 :100 :112 GAGACTTTCCCAAGACATATGAAAAÇCACTCTAGAGAAGTGCTGTGCCGCTTGCAGATCCTCATGAATGCTACGCCAAAAGTGT 1140 - 1150 1:70 ::80 ::9: $\texttt{TCGATGAATTTAAACCTTCTTGTG} \underline{\texttt{GAAGAGCCTCAGAATTTAA}} \\ \texttt{TCAAACAAAACTGTGAGCCTTTTTGAGCAGCTTTGGAGAG}$ F D B F K P L V E E P Q N L E X Q N C E L F E Q L G E TACAAATTOCAGAATGCGCTATTAGTTCGTTACACCAAGAAAGTACCCCAAGTGTCAACTCCAACTCTTGTAGAGGTCTC R N L G K V G S K C C K H P E A K R M P C A E D Y L 1420 1430 $\verb|costgstcctgaaccagttatgtgtgttgcatgaagaaaaccccagttaagtgacagagtcacaaaatsctgcacagagtcc$ |\\ 5 V V L N Q L C V L H E K T F V S D R V T K T D T E S TTGGTGAACAGGGGACCATGCTTTTCAGCTCTGGAAGTCGATGAAACATACGTTCCCAAAGAGTTTAACGCTGAAACATT LVNRRPCFSALEVDETYVPKEFNAETF TFHADICTLSEKERQIKKQTALVELV :670 AACACAAGCCCAAGGCAACAAAAGAGCAACTGAAAGCTGTTATGGATGATTTCGCAGCTTTTGTAGAGAAGTGCTGCAAG K H K P K A T K E Q L K A V M D D F A A F V E K C C K GCTGACGATAAGGAGACCTGCTTTGCCGAGGAGGGTAAAAACTTGTTGCTGCAAGTCAAGCTGCCTTAGGCTTATAACA A D D K E T C F A F E G K K L V A A S Q A A L G L

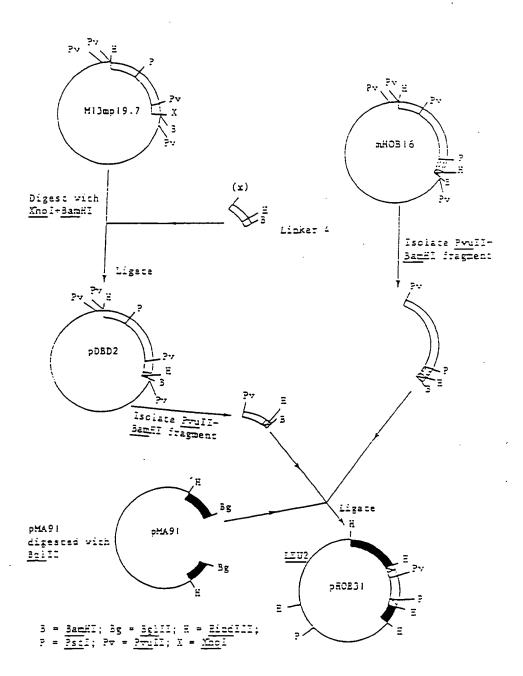
TOTACATTTAAAAGCATCTCAG

FIGURE 3 Construction of mHOBi6



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FIGURE 4 Construction of pBOB31



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Fig. 5A

180 180 0,00 0,00 0,00 200 Cys 220 Asn 280 Asp 300 320 320 340 740 740 750 750 Arg Lys Arg Asp Leu Ala Arg Asn Arg Lys Lys Asp Cys 든 Thr Thr Gln Trp Met Met 井 TH Ser Asn Asn His Asn GIn Thr GIN Thr Trp Lys Lys Ser Gly Lys ςλs Τζ G S Phe Asp His Tyr Asn Gly Arg Asp Val HIS Cys Val Aia Asn 뀨 Cys alu 첫 GIn Ser Gin Gin Trp Glu Arg Thr Arg val √a Leu Val G_y cys <u>ي</u> 부 GΙ <u>8</u> Ser <u>G</u> Ser Trp Ser <u>6</u> Glu Ala Phe Asn FP Asp Cys Thr Cys 11e cys F Si Gly His Leu Trp Cys Asn Met Lys Trp Cys Ser Thr Gly Asn Thr Tyr 뵨 G J Gly Thr Asp HIS Thr Val Pro Phe Leu Tyr Cys Met Leu Glu Lys Τhr Leu Pro Phe Thr ٧ Gly 170 Trp Glu Lys Pro Tyr Gly Arg Gly Pro 잣 보 Glu Thr Arg I le Gly Asp T 230 5 Thr Gly Asn Gly / Val Ala Pro Pro Pro Trp Leu Lys Gly Lys His Glu Gly Arg Ile Thr Arg Τζ Ala Set G GIS Cys (Pro Gly Asn Ser Serio <u>6</u> 8 ∑ **6**77 230 Gin 3350 Cys Cys <u>9</u>50 250 5er 93 867 330 티 <u>G</u> = = Gly Arg Ŧ Lys Ĕ Ser ζ Met Ş 틴 Cys Phe Asp Lys 文 Ser Asn Ely Ala Leu Cys Pro Gin Pro His Pro Σ Arg Arg ςysΙ . 15 Arg Pro Lys. Asp Ser Met Thr Ile Ala Asn Cys 11e Glu Pro Gly Arg Pro HIS Glu Thr Arg Thr Ser 투 Glu Gly Gly Oln Pro HIS Tyr Ţ Se Asn Gly Cys GIn Thr 부 Gly ξ ٩ Glu Gly Frp <u>\$</u> Asn Gly Lys Ě Asn Leu Leu Gin Ser Thr Glu Gin Asp Gin Lys Leu Gly Asn Gly <u>k</u> Cys Leu Gly 至 ςγs Arg <u>ş</u> GIU Thr \ Va. ጟ Ser 디 ςγs Asp GIn Asp Ser ζys Ser Cys Thr Asn Ser Gin Gin Trp Arg Asn Ser Gly Tyr Š <u>0</u> Asp Leu <u>8</u> Ser Lys Thr Ty. Ė Ser 뀨 <u>8</u> ΘŊ ۲ø Ely 부 Asp Asn G Asn

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660 100 700 118 **3**2 680 Vai Trp 200 Phe Ser ۸ GIn Gly Ser Gly Asp Leu ςŞ 뵨 휴 7 Ϋ́ Ś Trp Asp Lys Gin His Asp Met . L Asn Lys Pro ٨sn 쟛 Gly Cys Ser Gly HIS Asn 늍 Gly Asn Asp ۷aI Lys 1le Cys Πe Ser Leu Asp Leu Ţ Τζ Ser ٧ V8 Vø. Pro 丰 Pro <u>=</u> Thr. Ser <u>a</u> HIS Glu Trp Thr Asn Val Cys Ser GIn Tyr Thr Val Phe Gly Arg 벁 n L Fro His Ţ Glu Τ̈́ Ser Val Ser Ser T, Arg Lys Cys He Ser He Gin Pro Asp Met Ala Ala פֿכ Ţ ₹ Ser Ser Ser Asp Thr Ite Leu Ser Thr Τ̈́Υ 잣 ķ Ser Leu Arg Asn Glu Pro GIn Pro Asn 늗 Ŧ Gly 뉴 Cys Thr \$ Ser Pro Ely <u>5</u> A B Asp Ser Ala Arg HIS Leu GIn Asp Va Va Pro Asp GIY Asp Asn Gly Leu 1e 후 ٧ <u>8</u> , 680 680 770 Leu 730 Asp 750 Leu 650 Leu 490 Asp 670 Ser % √a/o \$50 \$70 470 Asn 510 Leu Asn Leu Pro Glu Phe 딥 Pro Lys P_ro Pro Τp GΙ Ser Asp GIY ᅙ Ile Pro Asp Leu Tyr Arg 11e GIY <u>8</u>8 Met 투 Asp Gln ۷ai 뉴 Ser Thr 11e Asp Phe Thr Thr Ser Ser Glu Glu <u>va</u> Asp Gly Glu Gln Ē HIS Glu Glu Gly His 찻 Glu Gly Gin Lys Phe Gly <u>®</u> ςλs Leu Arg Asp GIn Cys HIS Pro Phe Val Thr Trp Glu Lys Trp Lys Cys Asp Pro Val 되 Ale Š Met Thr 보 Τ̈́ Leu Ser Asn Asp olc. Ė Phe Ş. Ser Phe Pro 뫈 Lys Ser Ala Asp 투 .δ G J Arg Ser G Z Š Arg Trp Arg Tyr Ser S Met Asp le I 61 7 Ser Ser <u>اه</u> Arg Pro ᅽ Gly Met Ata Asn Lys <u>8</u> ٨ Gly Arg ē ౼

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Leo Thr

1060 Gly Ser Ser Ile 1080 Thr Pro Ala Pro 1100 Glu Val Pro. Ser Pro Pro 후 Va Va <u>ś</u> Thr Val Asn Lys Val GIn Glu Tyr Pro Arg G ₹ Thr Asp . Ele 부 Asp ۸la Val Thr Trp lle Val 11e Thr Trp Ala Val Vel Arg Vai Va Va 1230 Asp Thr Ile Ile Pro Ala HIS Ser Gly Glu Ser Gly Leu Thr Pro Gly 1130 Gin Giu Arg Asp Ala Pro Ile Ala Asn Pro Tyr Val Thr Gly Asn Val Thr Met Arg Gly 1190 Leu Glu Glu Val Glu Tyr G L Asn Leu His Leu Glu Asp [le 1070 Thr Thr 1090 Pro Ser 1250 Pro Asp Thr Thr Pro Arg Asn Ser Val Pro 11e Ser Glu Val Val Pro Gly Va Gly ౼ Gly Phe Asp Asn Leu Ser Ser 11e Lev Arg Asp 두 Asn 11e Sé Gin Gin Gly ΛøΙ Pro OID OID ۸rg Gly Phe Lys Leu Ser Pro Trp Glu Th Gly Leu Arg Phe Ser Asn Gly GIn Val Asn Asp Ser Pro Leu Ser Asp Lys ۲ٍ Ä Val Pro <u>=</u> Ser Arg Thr Pro ľĥr

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1560 Gly Lys Glu Ala N V 부 <u>8</u> Ser Leu Thr Ser ۷a 부 Va ۷al Val Τ̈́ Ala Leo Val Ala Leu Lys Asp 투 Th Ser Ħ Ser GIn Lys Ser 8 Pro Thr Va 투 Arg 투 Sec Gin Pro Leu Val Se Pro Trp Leu Pro Pro 늄 Ser \ | | 딘 Arg Pro Asp 1550 Gly Pro Gly ۷ 1570 Gly Leu ۷a۱ 1530 Lys Glu Ile Asn Leu Ala Lys Phe D D ์ ว Lys Asn Ser Val GIn Leu Thr Glu Val Ile Gly Leu Pro <u>=</u> 녙 Ser Met Ser 井 Ĺys Asn Val Asn S G Asn Ä μ̈́ Asp Met Ę Pro Š Leu Met Val <u>5</u> ۷ Asp ٦̈́ Ę Asp /e/

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1940 1940 1940 1940 1940 1940 1960 Ala 1980 Ser 2000 Thr Tyr Lys Ile Glu Ala Leu 2100 Trp Cys His Asp Asn Gly Let.] |-Ser Ser Pro Pro Arg Arg Ala Leu Leu Pro GIn 井 <u>=</u> ΞS Lys Leu Leu Cys Gin Ser 나 Ser ۷a <u>8</u> Arg Ser Trp Arg Thr Lys Thr Glu Arg Lys 부 보 Ile Ala Leu Lys Asn Asn Arg Asp Asp <u>5</u> Gly Val Gly Asn ξ Asn Ser Tyr Glu Glu Ala Pro Gly Glu Tyr]e Phe Pro Pro 부 Ŧ <u>s</u> Pro Gln Leu Asn Ite Ite Val 1le Pro GIY Pro Ťħr Ę Leu Val Val Тyг Ile Ile Lys Ţ <u>ک</u> ق Ser Phe 티 Phe Arg Ţ Ξ Pro Pro GIn Thr Pro Ŧ ٧ø Ser 뷰 Arg Pro Val Leu Asp Glu Asn Val <u>1</u> Pro Ile S Arg Phe Gln Aso Τ̈́Υ G Z Val GIY Ħ Ser Glu Phe Pro Pro Ala Κa 井 Gly Leu Ser Ţ Aso Glu Asn Gly Glu Val Ser Asn Gly Asp Val Ser Leu ۸la Ile Ą Asp 3 ξ 1990 Pro 970 Pro Arg G Asp Asp 부 Pro Lys I le 井 Met Arg Arg Pro Arg 보 Trp Ala Ala Lau Arg Phe Arg Arg Met <u>ال</u> 두 투 뵨 Asn Arg Lys Asp G √a! 첫 Pro 11e ۷ Asn Arg Leu _e> Ę Asp פֿ Pro Lys 후 O O Ala Ser Thr Asp Val Gly HIs ٦ HIS Gly Thr Gly Pro Trp 3 Asp Asn Arg Gly Ile Val Ser Ser 井 Υa 부 G S Arg 티 Pro Gly 드 Ĭ B Ala 井 G S Val Arg Pro 글 G Ser Š Pro Leu 11e 3 <u>1</u>0 Leu Asn A <u>Б</u> HIS ۷a Asp 뎚 **P** Arg Ala 卢 Ė <u>8</u> F Ser Pro Asp . LIO Leu Asp Asn Pro Asp <u>6</u> 744 GIY Тyг Ξ ТP <u></u> Pro Pro Leu 8 Asp Ser Val ģ Ja, Gly Ala Ser Ser Ser

Asn Tyr Lys IIe Giy Giu Lys Trp Asp Arg Gin Giy Giu Asn Giy Gin Met Met Ser 2130

Thr Cys Leu Giy Asn Giy Lys Giy Giu Phe Lys Cys Asp Pro His Giu Ala Thr Cys Asp Asp Giy Lys Thr Tyr His Val Giy Giu Gin Trp Gin Lys Giu Tyr Leu Giy Ala 2170

Cys Ser Cys Thr Cys Phe Giy Giy Gin Arg Giy Trp Arg Cys Asp Asn Cys Arg Arg Giy Giv Giu Giy Thr Thr Thr Thr Giy Gin Ser Tyr Asn Gin Tyr Ser Gin Tyr His Gin Arg Thr Asn Thr Asn Val Asn Cys Pro IIe Giu Cys Phe Met Pro Leu 2230

Val Gin Ala Asp Arg Giu Asp Ser Arg Giu Val Asn Tyr Lys Ile Gly Cys Thr Cys Leu Gly Asn Tyr Asp Asp Gly Lys Ile Arg Asp

Fig. SF

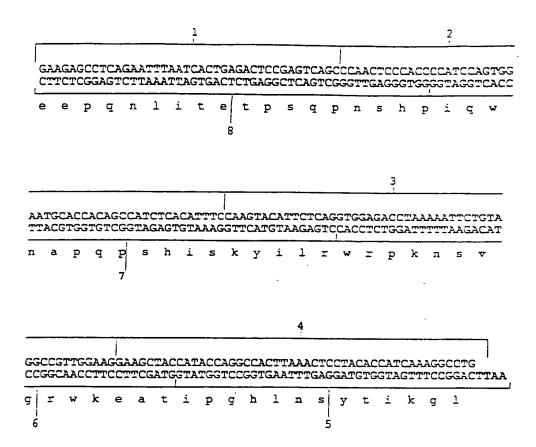


Figure 6 Linker 5 showing the eight constituent oligonucleotides

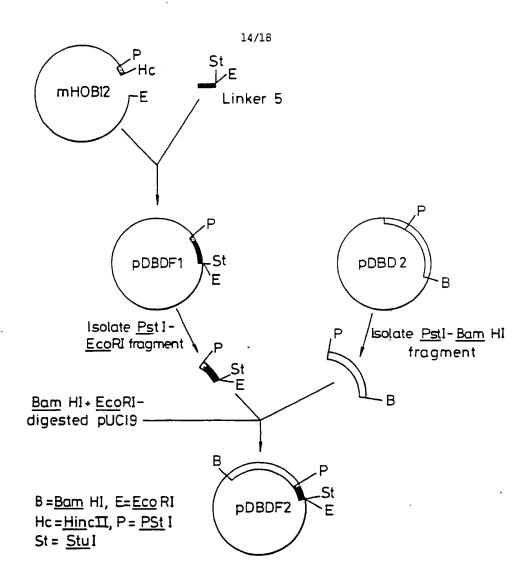


Fig. 7 Construction of pDBDF2

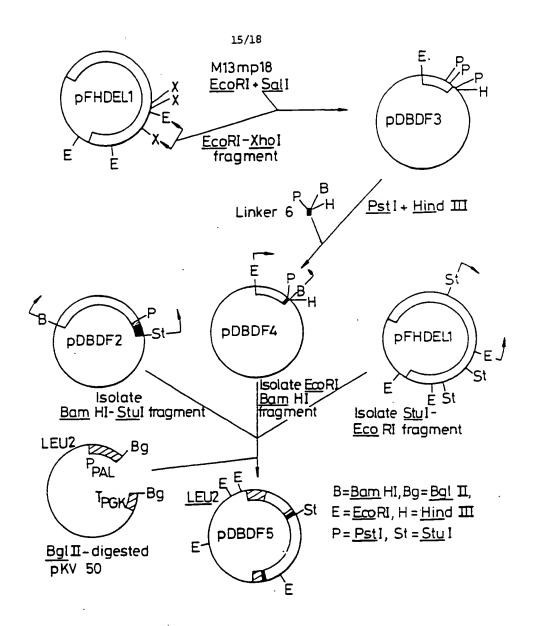


Fig. 8 Construction of pDBDF5

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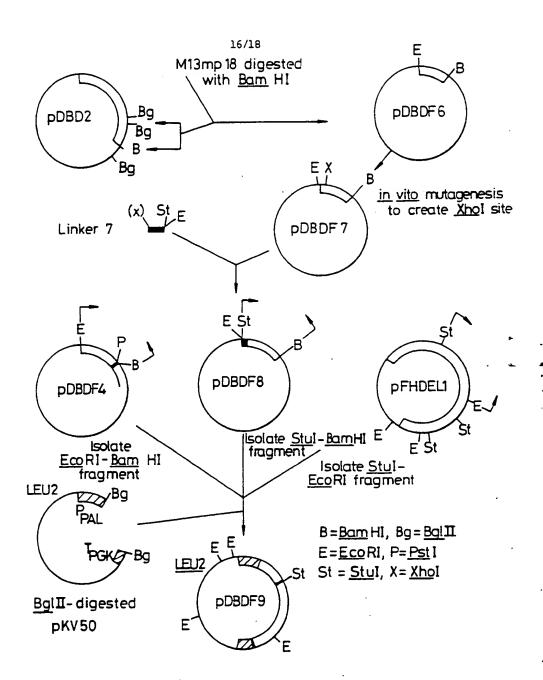
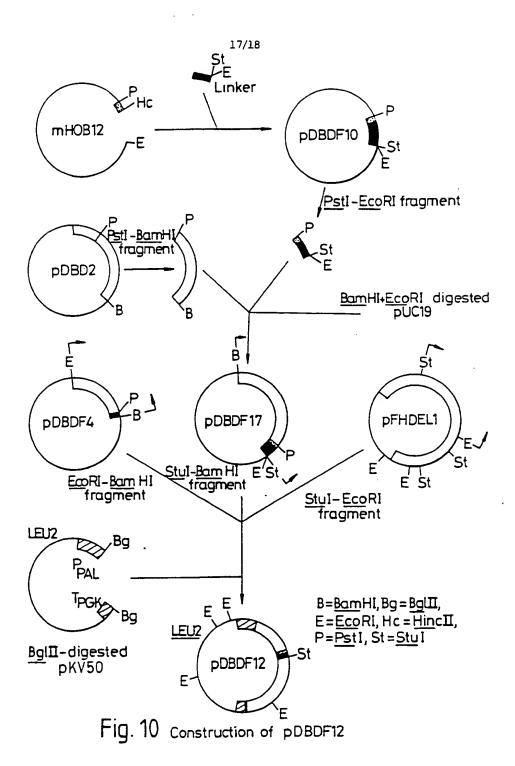


Fig. 9 Construction of pDBDF9

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Figure 11

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Name:

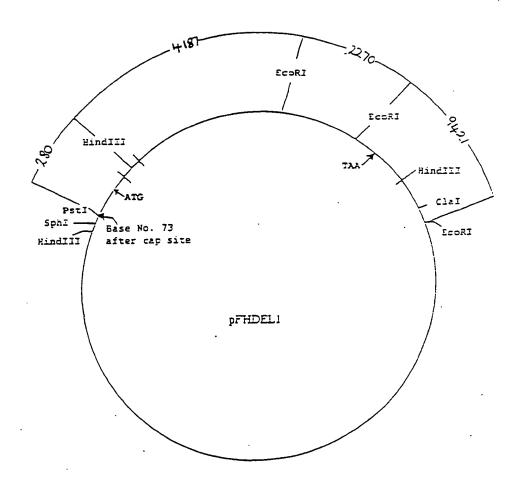
pFHDEL1

Vector:

pUC18 Amp^{fy} 2860bp

Insert:

hFNcDNA - 7630bp



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

According to inter	TION OF SUBJECT MATTER (if several classification (IPC) or to both 12 N 15/62, C 07 K 1	National Classification and IPC				
IPC ³ : C	12 N 15/62, C 07 K 1	.3/00, C 12 P 21/02				
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